



## Getting Started with the ECLS-B Data

### Module Objectives

- Introduce the users to the data collected through the ECLS-B and the resulting micro-level data file
- Describe the resources available to learn more about the study, the data, and the data file

### ECLS-B Data

ECLS-B data are obtained directly from one or more respondents across multiple points in time in the study or indirectly through observation

Respondents	Data collections across the study	Collection methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children</li><li>• Mothers and fathers</li><li>• Early care and education providers</li><li>• Teachers</li><li>• Schools</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Birth Certificate</li><li>• 9 months</li><li>• 2 years</li><li>• Preschool (4 years)</li><li>• Kindergarten (5 years)</li><li>• First-time kindergartners and kindergarten repeaters (6 years)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Direct assessment</li><li>• Videotape and audiotape</li><li>• Self-administered questionnaires</li><li>• Face-to-face and telephone interviews</li><li>• Observations</li></ul>

Many of the [data collection instruments](#) are available online

### Other Categories of Available ECLS-B Data

- Administrative variables
- Composite variables
- Sampling variables
- Weighting variables

### Variable Naming Conventions

- First character = data collection instrument  
(e.g., P = parent interview, C = child assessment, X or Y= composite)
- Second character = round of data collection  
(i.e., 1 = 9 months, 2 = 2 years, 3 = preschool, 4 = Kindergarten 2006, 5 = Kindergarten 2007)

Examples:

**P3READBO:**

P = parent interview

3 = round 3 (preschool) data collection

**C1EXPLRE:**

C = child assessment

1 = round 1 (9-month) data collection

Click here to access the [Variable Naming Conventions](#) resource sheet

### Resources for Information on ECLS-B Data

- Read the User's Manuals and other technical reports
  - Data considerations, caveats, anomalies, errata
- Review recently generated reports such as First Looks, etc.
- Review instruments
  - Check paths, skip patterns
- Check the website occasionally

### Module Summary and Resources

- Introduced the users to the data collected through the ECLS-B and the resulting micro-level data file
- Described the resources available to learn more about the study, the data, and the data file

#### Resources

- [Data collection instruments](#)
- [Variable Naming Conventions](#)